

THE TENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF DERMATOLOGY

LONDON, ENGLAND

July 21-26, 1952

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Unanimity of opinion is notoriously rare among physicians, but we believe that few who attended the Tenth International Congress of Dermatology will fail to agree as to its success. In the face of even more than the usual difficulties, the British sponsors produced a smooth-running, well-organized and altogether splendid meeting.

The Social Program arranged by the Social Secretary and by the Ladies' Committee, with its sight-seeing tours, receptions, teas, garden parties and banquets, made it difficult to believe in the existence of any such thing as an "austerity program." And the warm-hearted hospitality with which the visitors from every land were welcomed into many a British Club and home completely negated the existence of such a thing as British aloofness. Even the weather smiled and "gray, foggy, old London" was gay and sparkling.

The total attendance was 1071 and there were 708 full members. Representatives from 50 nations were present. The number of members from the U. S. A. was 190. The three principal topics, covered by longer papers and translated

simultaneously into the four official languages were as follows: *The Pathogenesis of Eczema*; *Cortisone and ACTH: Effects on the Skin and Skin Diseases*; and *The Treatment of Tuberculosis of the Skin and Allied Conditions*.

The scientific program was rounded out by a rich show of fascinating and instructive cases and excellent scientific and technical exhibits. There is no need to give further scientific details here, since abstracts of the papers have already appeared in a special issue of *Excerpta Medica*; and the official volume of *Transactions* of the Congress is to be published shortly.

Certainly all those present heartily approved the closing vote of thanks given to the British Officers and Committees of the Congress, as well as to the many anonymous and silent workers, both present and absent, whose aggregate efforts and team-work made the whole gigantic endeavor turn out to be such an unqualified success.

During the Congress, there was formed a new International Committee, with representatives from the various countries and linguistic groups. Guido Miescher of Zürich was elected Chairman of this Committee, and Sven Hellerström of Stockholm its Secretary. It is planned to hold the next International Congress in 5 years in Stockholm. There can be no doubt that the good-will created and consolidated largely through the efforts of our British hosts during the Tenth International Congress, together with the ability and popularity of the officers of the new International Committee, will make the Eleventh Congress a memorable event, fully worthy of its immediate predecessor. Miescher and Hellerström and their Committee can count on the dermatologists of the entire world to help them towards this end.

M. B. S.